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**RURAL DISTRICT
OF
MALMESBURY**

1962

RURAL DISTRICT

OF

MALMESBURY

T H E

ANNUAL R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

and

C H I E F P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R

for the

YEAR ENDING

31st. DECEMBER

1962

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

1

(a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

C. L. Broomhead, T.D., M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Official address: 5, High Street,
Chippenham. Tel: Chippenham
2821 Extn. 49.

also Medical Officer of Health for the Boroughs of
Calne, Chippenham and Malmesbury and the Rural District
of Calne & Chippenham; Assistant County Medical Officer
of Health and School Medical Officer, County of Wilts.

(b) CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR.

R. S. Pierce, Esq., Cert S.I.B., Meat & Other Food
Inspector's Cert.

(c) DEPUTY SURVEYOR

D. G. Davies, Cert S.I.B., Meat & Other Food Inspector's
Cert.

(d) ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

R. T. Baynham, Cert S.I.B., Meat & Other Food Inspector's
Cert., Diploma of the Royal Society of
Health for Smoke Inspectors.

(e) SECRETARY TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

S. G. V. Williamson, Cert. R.I.P.H.H.

The Public Health Committee of the Council deals with all
matters relating to public health.

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The Chairman & members,
Malmesbury Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman & members,

I have the honour to present my annual report for the year 1962 in accordance with Regulation 15(5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959.

Copies of the Report are required by the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and H.M. Inspector of Factories; a copy is also sent to the County Medical Officer of Health.

The report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. R.S. Pierce, is incorporated and provides much detailed information on environmental public health.

I am grateful to Mr. Pierce and the Staff of the Council for their co-operation and assistance during the year under review.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

C.L. Broomhead,

Medical Officer of Health.

The birth rate shows a slight reduction compared to 1961 (23.8); the still birth rate also shows a slight reduction compared to the previous year (23.6)

The infantile mortality rate of 21.5 is only a little higher than that for England & Wales (20.7) but is higher than that of 1961 when it was only 8.3. The increase in the rate can be explained by the fact that only small numbers are involved in the calculations.

The death rate of 10.7 for 1962 is lower than that of the previous year (11.6) and it is gratifying to note that apart from a case of tuberculosis of the kidney, notifiable infectious disease made no contribution to the causes of death. Coronary disease in particular and cancer, as usual, were the main causes of death during the year under review. Although the Registrar General shows a nil return in respect of tuberculosis, other (see page), nevertheless the death from tuberculosis quoted above, has been shown in the local statistics (see page of this report).

Notifiable infectious disease reached a new low level of incidence. Apart from eleven cases of Scarlet Fever and three cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, no serious infectious diseases were notified during the year.

It is apparent that the health of the population of the Malmesbury Rural District was satisfactory during 1962. The report of Mr. Pierce, the Chief Public Health Inspector details the inspections carried out by his department during the year, also the samples taken for examination at the Public Health Laboratory, Bath; important contributions to the maintenance and improvement of the public health.

The North Wilts. Water Board took over the administration of Local Authorities Water Undertakings on the 1 Oct 62. Further comment on this will be found in the paragraph on water supplies which should be read in conjunction with my comments on the formation of the North Wilts. Water Board on page 12 of my annual report for the year ending 31 Dec 61.

C.L. Broomhead,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

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Area (in acres)	58090
Population	10,700
No. of inhabited houses at the end of 1962 (according to the Rate Book)	3,108
Rateable Value at 31.12.62	£112,392
Estimated sum represented by the Penny Rate	£461.

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	113	106	219
Illegitimate	3	6	9
Total	116	112	228

Crude Birth Rate for the Rural District	21.3
	per 1000 of the population.
Adjusted Birth Rate for the Rural District	21.9
	per 1000 of the population.
Comparative Rate for England & Wales	18.0

Members of the armed forces stationed in the area are included in the population figure shown under the heading "General Statistics". To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from England & Wales as a whole, the crude birth and death rates for the Rural District are to be multiplied by a "comparability factor" given by the Registrar General. The above statistics have been so corrected.

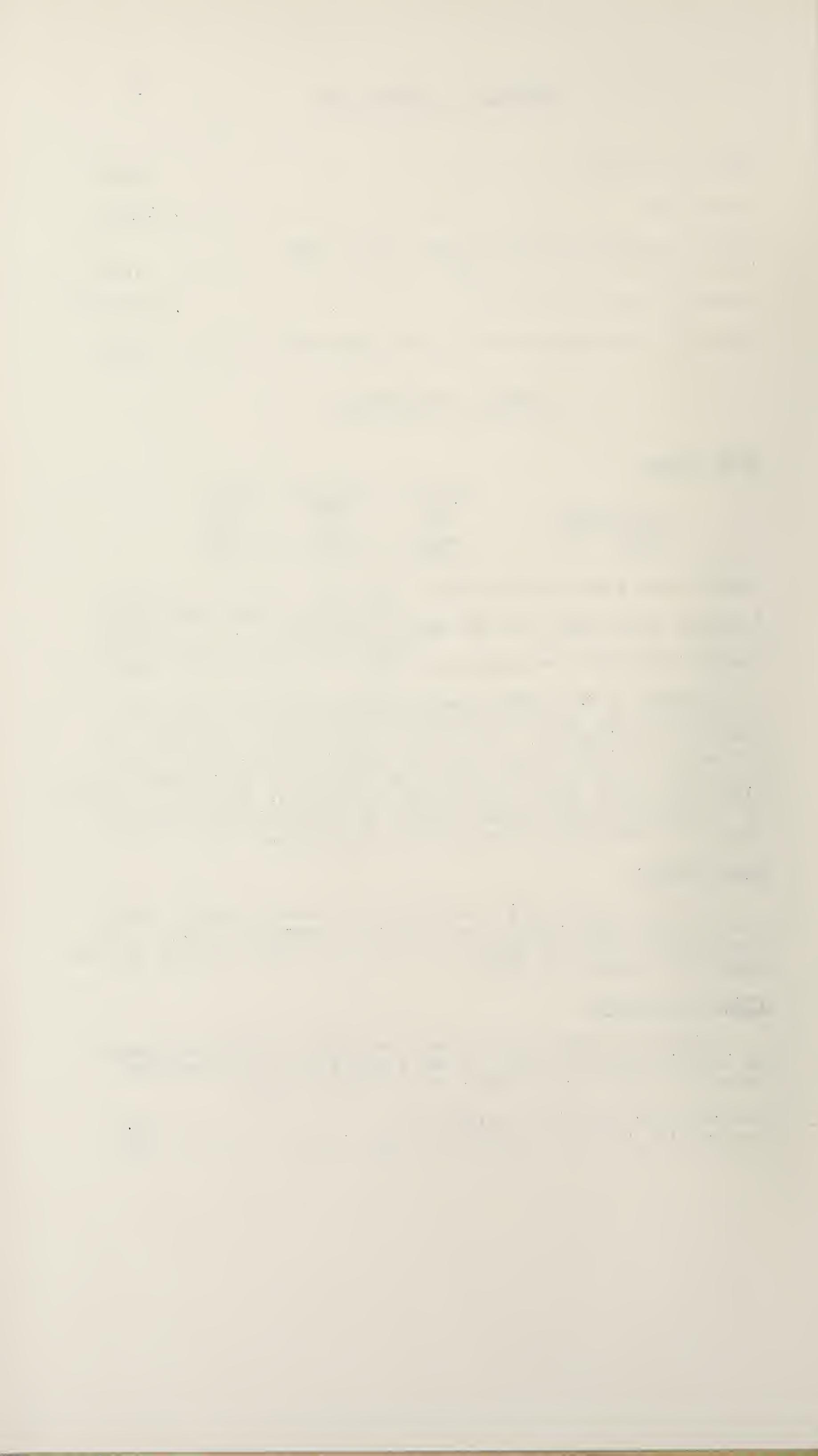
STILL BIRTHS

A total of five still births were recorded during 1962. The rate per 1000 total live and still births is 21.7. The comparative rate for England & Wales for 1962 is given by the Registrar General as 18.1.

INFANT MORTALITY

A total of seven deaths were recorded in 1962 in respect of infants under the age of one year; four of the children concerned died during their first week of life.

The rate per 100 live births is..... 21.5
Comparative rate for England & Wales is..... 20.7



Deaths recorded in the Rural District during 1962 were as follows:-

Males	Females	Total.
72	41	113

Crude death rate for the Rural District.....10.5
per 1000 of the population.
Adjusted Death Rate for the Rural District.....10.7
per 1000 of the population
Comparative rate for England & Wales11.9

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	-	1
" " , lung,	5	1	6
" " , bronchus	-	-	-
" " , breast	-	-	-
" " , uterus	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	3	12
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous sys.	5	6	11
Coronary disease, angina	17	7	24
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2
Other heart disease	2	10	12
Other circulating disease	3	2	5
Influenza	1	1	2
Pneumonia	6	1	7
Bronchitis	6	3	9
Other diseases of respiratory sys.	1	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	1	-	1
Nephritis, and nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	2	-	2
Other defined and ill-defined dis.	4	2	6
Motor vehicle accidents	4	-	4
All other accidents	3	1	4
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
TOTAL:-	72	41	113



PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table shows the cases of infectious disease notified during 1962, together with comparative figures for each year since 1958.

<u>DISEASE</u>	1958		1959		1960		1961		1962	
	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b
Scarlet Fever	-	-	4	4	2	2	2	2	11	11
Whooping Cough	13	13	-	-	12	12	2	2	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	68	68	66	66	1	1	117	117	4	4
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. Poliomyelitis (non-paralytic)	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	15	15	1	1	28	9	9	6	5	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Para. Typhoid Fever	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning.	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
TOTALS:-	104	100	71	71	43	24	131	127	22	18

"a" = numbers originally notified

"b" = final numbers after correction.

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases of Tuberculosis notified and confirmed by the Chest Physician during 1962 are as follows, together with comparative totals for previous years since 1949.

NEW CASES NOTIFIED DURING

Year	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
1949	3	-	3
1950	3	4	7
1951	6	-	6
1952	3	2	5
1953	8	-	8
1954	7	4	11
1955	5	-	5
1956	4	-	4
1957	2	1	3
1958	7	1	8
1959	4	2	6
1960	3	2	5
1961	5	1	6
1962	3	-	3

A notified case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis died during the year under review.

In addition to the new cases notified each year, a certain proportion of tuberculous persons either move into the district or move out. According to the Register of Tuberculous Persons, the following notified and confirmed cases of tuberculosis were living in the rural district at the end of 1962.

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	28	19	47
Non-Pulmonary	9	4	13
Total	37	23	60

A total of sixty cases were on the register at the end of 1962 as compared to a total of sixty three cases at the end of 1961.

Mass Radiography.

A Mobile X-Ray Unit visited Crudwell and the premises of Messrs. E.K. Cole Ltd during April 1962, with the following results.

Total persons examined..... 443
 Cases of Tuberculosis found Nil
 Abnormalities of the chest found
 (other than tuberculosis)..... 1.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

The Wiltshire County Council, as a Local Health Authority, is responsible for the formation of schemes for the immunisation of children against certain infections. I am indebted to Dr. C.D.L. Lycett, County Medical Officer of Health for the following information:-

Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus (Statistics for 1962)

<u>Year of Birth</u>		1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1953-57	1948-52
Primary imms	Diph	30	75	7	-	2	11	1
	Wh/c	30	75	7	-	2	-	-
	Tet.	30	75	7	-	4	53	8
Reinfo. injections administered during 1962.	Diph W/C. Tet	-	4	15	3	4	77	3
		-	4	14	3	1	16	1
		-	4	15	4	4	67	16

Vaccination against Smallpox

<u>Age Group.</u>	<u>Under 1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2-4</u>	<u>5-14</u>	<u>15 or over</u>
Vaccinations	79	22	36	106	118
Re-vaccinations	-	1	5	109	193

Completed Poliomyelitis Immunisations during 1962.

Persons born	2nd inj.	3rd inj.	4th inj.	3 Oral	3rd. Oral after 2 injs.	4th. Oral.
1943-1961	33	134	18	46	56	76
1933-1942	10	17	-	11	5	1
Babies born in 1962	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	15	68	2	21	10	1
TOTALS:-	58	219	20	78	71	78

WATER SUPPLIES

The North Wilts. Water Board finally took over the administration of the Council's Water Undertakings on the 1st. October, 1962 and decided that the appointment of a Medical Officer to the Board was not required.

The Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of Health stated in his annual report for 1957 that Water Undertakings should ensure that they have access to competent medical advice at all times. The Water Board also requires advice on the medical fitness of new employees and whether those employed in intimate contact with water sources are free from intestinal infection. It was considered advisable therefore to convene a meeting between the Clerk and Engineer of the North Wilts. Water Board, the Medical Officers of Health of the adjoining districts within the area of supply of the Board, and the Director of the Public Health Laboratory, Bath to arrange a sampling procedure for the future and to define and accept individual responsibilities. A meeting took place on the 12th. October, 1962, and the following agreement was reached.

- (a) Bacteriological examination of samples of water taken both by the Board and the Constituent Councils to be carried out at the Salisbury Laboratories for the Devizes districts and at the Bath Laboratories for the remaining Districts. Dr. Mann requested that samples should be delivered to the Laboratories not later than Thursday in each week unless special arrangements were made.
- (b) The constituent councils Medical Officers to continue to have samples taken from consumers' taps and to observe chlorine residuals.
- (c) The Board's officers to take samples at the sources and also from consumers' taps.
- (d) The arrangements for chemical and physical examination of water supplies to be undertaken by the Board's officers.
- (e) Full interchange of laboratory reports on all samples whether taken by the Board or the constituent councils. If possible, the Laboratories to send copies of reports direct to both Board and Medical Officer of the District concerned.
- (f) The Medical Officers agreed to co-operate in the examination of new employees both for superannuation purposes and for fitness to be employed in waterworks.
- (g) The position of employees who had been transferred from the constituent councils was carefully considered and it was decided to recommend to the Board that the medical history of all transferred employees be reviewed.

The Medical Officers stressed the importance of the recommendations relating to general cleanliness at waterworks contained in Memorandum 241.

REPORT OF SURVEYOR AND CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1962.

OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

R.S. Pierce,	Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector.
D.G. Davis,	Deputy Surveyor.
R.T. Baynham,	Additional Public Health Inspector.
J.R. Atherton,	Technical Assistant.
J.H. Humphreys (Mrs.)	Clerical Assistant.
G.J. Poulton (Miss)	Clerical Assistant.

HOUSING.

Council Houses.

The erection of 4 two-bedroomed bungalows at Hankerton was completed, and a tender accepted for the erection of 25 bungalows, with site works, at Sherston.

16 families were accommodated in existing houses through change of tenancy.

No. of applicants for Council houses at present registered

187

The Council own:-

24	1	bedroomed bungalows.
51	2	" "
25	2	" houses.
415	3	" "
10	4	" "
<u>525</u>		

Maintenance and repair of Council houses has been carried out almost entirely by direct labour, the repair of electrical installations being the only work regularly carried out by Contractors.

The average cost of repair and maintenance was approximately £14.0.0. per house.

Schemes for the improvement of pre-war Council houses by the installation of hot water systems, water closets, baths, basins etc., have proceeded.

During the year under review work has been completed in 8 houses at Newtown, Hullavington and work has commenced in 16 houses at Green Lane, Sherston.

Up to the end of 1962, 86 houses have been improved.

42 garages are now owned by the Council, and a tender has been accepted for the building of 12 more at Brooklands, Brinkworth.

No. of inspections of occupied Council houses

721

Private Enterprise Building.

No. of houses completed during the year

56

No. in course of erection

35

Administration of Building Byelaws.

No. of plans submitted for approval	151
No. of plans passed	151
No. of inspections in connection therewith	732

Town and Country Planning Act, 1962.

The Council continued to exercise the powers delegated by the Wilts. County Council with regard to development control.

No. of applications for permission to develop	162
No. approved without conditions	73
No. approved with conditions	54
No. of applications withdrawn	4
No. of applications refused	26
No. of applications not yet determined	5
No. of inspections in connection therewith	191

Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act, 1960.

Licences were issued for the stationing of 2 caravans on individual sites bringing the number of caravans licensed to 63 on 23 sites. The sites generally were satisfactorily operated with one exception when it was found necessary to prosecute the licensee.

No. of inspections	56
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Inspection of Dwellings.

No. of inspections of dwellings for defects under Housing or Public Health Acts	293
No. of dwellings found to be unfit for human habitation	2
No. found to be not in all respects fit	60
No. of dwellings repaired by informal action	59
No. of cases of statutory action	NIL
No. of houses demolished	3
No. of houses closed	2
No. of overcrowded dwellings known at end of year	NIL
No. of undertakings accepted	2

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958.House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.Improvement Grants.

There have been fewer applications for improvement grants during the year the total number approved being 49 against 64 for the previous year.

The improvement of houses is making a valuable contribution to raising the standard of housing in the District.

Discretionary Grants.

No. of applications received during the year	31
No. of applications approved	31
No. of applications withdrawn	NIL
No. of schemes completed	28
Average grant per dwelling	£333

Standard Grants.

No. of applications for standard grants received	18
during the year	
No. of grants approved during the year	18
No. of amenities provided during the year -	
Baths	18
Basins	18
Hot water supplies	18
Water closets	21
Foodstores	14
No. of inspections of grant aided premises	257

WATER.

During the year the following samples from main supplies were taken for bacteriological examination:-

<u>Source</u>	<u>No. of samples</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>
Charlton	3	3	-
Chelworth	12	12	-
Corston	2	2	-
Corston/Charlton main	49	49	-
Minety	12	12	-
Sherston	11	11	-
Westonbirt main	<u>11</u> <u>100</u>	<u>11</u> <u>100</u>	<u>-</u> <u>-</u>
No. of visits in connection therewith			100

Water mains have been extended to supply the outlying groups of houses at Bullocks Horn in the parish of Hankerton and Chedglow in the parish of Crudwell.

Wherever a main supply is available owners have been asked to provide a piped supply inside the house and most houses in the District now have such a supply.

SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The installation of main water supplies throughout practically the whole of the District, and consequent increase in drainage, makes the need for main sewerage schemes greater than ever.

The Council's policy has been to encourage house building by private enterprise and the improvement of older property by the installation of water closets and baths, the only possible drainage outfalls in many cases at present being cesspits or septic tanks. In areas with pervious subsoil, effluent disposal by soakage is reasonably efficient but in that part of the District with a clay or water-logged subsoil the tendency is growing for ditches and water-courses to become polluted, with consequent complaints from residents in the vicinity.

The increasing use of detergents is making plant maintenance and effluent disposal even more difficult than in the past.

Until such time as sewage schemes can be provided, if houses are to be improved, the occupants must be prepared to accept a certain amount of inconvenience in drainage disposal.

The Hullavington and Sherston sewage disposal plants have been well maintained during the year and samples of effluent have been reported to be excellent.

Work commenced on the schemes for Great and Little Somerford and for that part of the parish of St. Paul Without surrounding the Borough of Malmesbury.

The Deputy Surveyor has been engaged almost full time on the supervision of the Somerfords scheme and the drain connections thereto.

Calne and Chippenham Rural District Council have agreed to make provision in their regional scheme for the treatment of drainage from Startley and the Swalletts Gate - Dauntsey Lock areas.

Further schemes are being prepared with a view to continuity in progress but the speed with which proposals can be implemented will depend upon the amount of time which officers can devote to the work.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Refuse is collected fortnightly, by direct labour, over the whole of the Rural District, 2 men being employed full time and 1 part time.

More householders are realizing the need to provide proper covered flyproof dustbins but unsuitable containers such as sacks, cardboard boxes and old baths etc., continue to be used in many instances.

The volume of refuse collected continues to increase and is deposited at 3 tips, Hullavington (owned by the Council), Sherston and Chelworth (by agreement with the owners).

No serious difficulty has been experienced at the tips.

The Hullavington tip is nearly full and it has not yet been possible to obtain a new site in this part of the District. Tipping commenced in the disused gravel pit on Laynes Farm, Chelworth and the disused marl pit at Knockdown Road, Sherston.

A new tip is urgently required in the Southern part of the District if long hauls of refuse are to be avoided.

Mileage covered by lorries	14,097
No. of inspections in connection with refuse collection and disposal	184

RODENT CONTROL.

Refuse tips have been treated for destruction of rats as required.

Private premises are treated without charge, on request.

No. of properties inspected for infestations	149
No. of properties found to be infested and treated	58
No. of visits in connection therewith	182

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

35 visits were made and the necessary action taken following reported cases of infectious disease.

NUISANCES.

Regular inspections have been made over the District to detect and deal with nuisances. It has not been necessary to recommend the Council to take statutory action in any case, all nuisances having been dealt with informally.

No. of inspections 201

FOOD INSPECTION.Meat.

The 3 butchers shops in the District are clean and in good condition. The carcases of all animals slaughtered were examined.

There are 3 licensed slaughtermen in the District.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	64	-	2	104	49	nil
Number inspected	64	-	2	104	49	nil
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci Whole carcases condemned.	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	9.38	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcases condemned.	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	nil	nil	nil	nil	1	nil
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration. Generalised and totally condemned	nil	nil	nil	nil	2.04	nil
	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil

A total of 89 lbs. of meat and offal were found to be unfit for human consumption and condemned.

No. of visits to slaughterhouse	67
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Milk.

The Wilts. County Council delegated to the Council certain powers and duties under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960.

56 samples of milk were taken during the year. Samples taken for keeping quality were satisfactory but biological tests on several samples of raw milk taken from a producer retailer were Brucellosis positive. The necessary action was taken including appeal to cow samples. 3 sets of bottle rinses were satisfactory.

No. of registered distributors	3
No. of licensed Dealers in Pasteurised milk	3
No. of licensed Dealers in Tuberculin Tested milk	3
No. of licensed Dealers in Sterilised milk	1
No. of inspections of premises	12

Bakehouses.

Repairs and improvements have been carried out at the 3 bakehouses which are now satisfactory.

Fried Fish Shops.

The only registered fried fish shop has now been closed.

Ice-Cream.

No ice-cream is manufactured in the District, and all sold is pre-packed by the Makers.

No. of premises registered for sale of ice-cream	44
No. of inspections	34

Public Houses.

Progress continues to be made in the provision of adequate sanitary conveniences and cleansing facilities in public houses, and most are now satisfactory.

No. of inspections	26
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Food Hygiene Regulations.

The mobile vehicles operating in the District are generally satisfactory. All premises in the District used for the sale of food are generally in good condition and well maintained.

Schedule of Food Premises in the District.

	<u>Number.</u>	<u>Number of Inspections.</u>
Butchers	3	5
Grocers (including General Stores)	38	29
Bakers	3	10
Public Houses	34	26
Greengrocers	1	2
Restaurants and Canteens	5	11
	<u>84</u>	<u>82</u>

THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957.

All premises were satisfactory.

No. of premises processing at the end of the year	4
No. of visits made	7

STORAGE OF PETROLEUM SPIRIT.

All premises licensed for the storage of petroleum spirit and carbide of calcium are satisfactory.

No. of premises licensed for storage of petroleum spirit	63
No. of premises licensed for storage of calcium	1
No. of inspections	89

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

During the year the total number of inspections made by Officers of the Department was 3,974

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

PART 1 of the Act.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

	No. on Register.	Inspns.	Number of Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by L.A.'s.		Nil	Nil	Nil
Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the L.A.	22	18	Nil	Nil
Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding out-workers' premises).	1	1	Nil	Nil
Total	23	19	Nil	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

No action was taken under this heading during the year under review.

3. Part V111 of the Act (Outwork) - Sections 133 and 134.

There are no outworkers living in the Rural District.



